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## **NEWS ADVISORY**

**For immediate release: April 11, 2005**

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### **Issues Consortium Provides Open Forum for Law Enforcement Executives to Discuss Important Issues**

**Richmond, KY:** Over 50 of Kentucky's top law enforcement executives and professional association leaders will attend the newly created Kentucky Law Enforcement Issues Consortium (KLIC) April 13 and 14 to discuss important issues facing the Kentucky law enforcement community today.

The Department of Criminal Justice Training, in cooperation with the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, continues to lead the nation in its programs designed to maintain and further collaboration and broad consensus on issues facing Kentucky law enforcement by creating KLIC. The KLIC committee is comprised of top leaders of Kentucky's five professional law enforcement associations. The consortium also includes additional chiefs and sheriffs, as well as other law enforcement executives from across the state, for the purpose of assisting and advising the administration on identifying and examining top issues, proposing action plans and providing support for implementation of items critical to public safety throughout the Commonwealth.

"This is the first formal consortium of its kind in Kentucky designed to harness police executive and professional association leadership to further develop the positive and progressive evolution of local, rural and state law enforcement throughout the state," DOCJT Commissioner John W. Bizzack said. "KLIC will provide a balanced, galvanized voice for law enforcement and give the administration, legislators and local elected officials the assurance that issues from the consortium have been thoroughly vetted and examined in unison by officials representing all Kentucky law enforcement."

Lt. Gov. Stephen B. Pence, who also serves as secretary of the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, will be joined by the presidents of the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police, Kentucky Sheriffs' Association, Kentucky Fraternal Order of Police, Kentucky Police Officers' Association, Kentucky Women's Law Enforcement Network, university police leaders and the commissioners of the Kentucky State Police and Kentucky Vehicle Enforcement, as well as numerous chiefs and sheriffs from across the state. Every region of the state at every level will have a voice in the consortium.



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The two-day consortium will begin on Wednesday April 13 at 4:00 p. m. with a presentation by J. Patrick McCreary, associate deputy director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance in the Office of Justice Programs, Washington D. C., about the re-prioritization of issues in law enforcement.

On Thursday, April 14 Karen Russell, Eastern Kentucky University facilitation services specialist, will facilitate the roundtable discussions, which will focus on hot-topic issues such as drug abuse in Kentucky, homeland security, the Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund, funding sources and recruitment and retention.

UNITE Executive Director Karen Engle and Office of Drug Control Policy Executive Director Teresa Barton will begin discussion on drug abuse issues, and Keith Hall, executive director of the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security, will begin discussion on homeland security issues in the Commonwealth.

KLIC committee members are appointed by the administration and will meet twice a year to discuss issues that effect Kentucky law enforcement and bring their concerns before the governor through legislative proposals each year. The next KLIC meeting is scheduled for September.

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